

Naturally Wonderful



Singletary Lake State Park



Fort Macon State Park



Pilot Mountain State Park

NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS *Naturally Wonderful*

Printed with vegetable-based ink on 100% recycled paper. This publication is recyclable. When you have finished with it, help save our earth by sharing it with a friend, returning it to the park or placing it in an appropriate recycling bin.



The N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation is a division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

John E. Skvarla, III
Secretary



Pat McCrory
Governor

50,000 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of \$6745.00 or .13 cents per copy.
M50 12/13



North Carolina's state parks are "Naturally Wonderful" and also wonderfully diverse. With 41 state park units, the system stretches from the highest sand dune on the East Coast at Jockey's Ridge to Mount Mitchell, the highest point in the eastern United States. Between these points, you'll find mysterious bay lakes, wild swamps, rare sandhills, piedmont river systems and bold mountain streams.

The parks system was established in 1916 when a group of citizens sought to protect the summit of Mount Mitchell. It became the first state park in the Southeast and among the first in the nation. Many of the state parks were initiated by local citizens with a strong conservation ethic.

More than 14 million people visit the state parks each year. The state parks system employs park rangers and park superintendents who are commissioned law enforcement officers.

Education is also a hallmark of North Carolina state parks. Rangers offer free interpretive programs that reveal the marvels of each park. Many parks have state-of-the-art visitor centers and exhibit halls to help you explore North Carolina's cultural and natural heritage.

Conservation, recreation and education are what North Carolina state parks are all about. A visit to any of them can show you why they're "Naturally Wonderful."



We're social

www.facebook.com/NorthCarolinaStateParks

www.twitter.com/NCparks



Hanging Rock State Park



Chimney Rock State Park



Hammocks Beach State Park